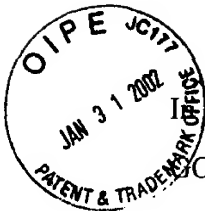


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2-5-02  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



International Patent Application of

OTO et al.

Atty. Ref.: 249-190

Serial No. 09/935,163

Group: 1754

Filed: August 23, 2001

Examiner:

For: CATALYST CARRIER HOLDING MEMBER, METHOD  
OF MAKING THE SAME AND CATALYST  
CONVERTER

\* \* \* \* \*

Janaury 31, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Attention is invited to the attached copy of a European Search Report mailed December 17, 2001 with respect to this disclosure and a copy of each document cited in it together with a completed Form PTO-1449.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)], an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner [Commissioner's Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 12-25 at 25].

Respectfully submitted,

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